IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e Patent Application of

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GUBLE

OCT 2 7 2003

Atty. Ref.:

2558-57

Serial No.

10/036,500

Group:

3739

Filed:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

January 7, 2002

Examiner:

Vrettakos, Peter J.

For:

AN ELECTROSURGICAL SYSTEM AND METHOD

October 21, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

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In response to the Office Action, dated September 23, 2003, in the above-identified application, Applicant hereby <u>elects</u>, without traverse, the claims of Group II for further examination in this application.

In this regard, it is noted that a Preliminary Amendment was filed with this application in which the cancellation of claims 1-30 was requested. Copies of this Preliminary Amendment and the USPTO date-stamped post card evidencing its filing are being submitted with this Response.

In view of the previously filed Preliminary Amendment canceling claims 1-30, it is believed that the claims of Group II are now claims 31-47.

If any issues remain regarding Applicant's election of the claims of Group II for further examination, the Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

GOBLE Serial No. 10/036,500 Page 2

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the outstanding Office Action identified above. Applicant awaits further action in this application.

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By:

Robert A. Molan Reg. No. 29,834

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Director for Patents

OCT 2 7 2003

Washington, DC 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please enter the following amendments prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-30 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Please enter the amendments prior to examination. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

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590423



Serial No. Not Yet Assigned Inventor: GOBLE, Nigel M.

Atty: Robert A. Molan Date: 1/7/02 C/M# 2558-57

Pages Specification; (including Lage Preliminary Amendment

Title AN ELECTROSURGICAL SYSTEM AND METHOD

C-I-P Patent Application

Abstract) 34

Claims 47

Sheets of Drawings